

# **DRAFT Minutes of Meeting November 18, 2009**

## **Middletown Police Station**

**In attendance: Evelyn Wheeler, Judith Fardig, Letty Champion, Pegée Malcolm, Bruce MacGunnigle,, David Kirchner, Lee Teverow, Sally Small**

**Excused Absences: Robert Butler, Henry Duquette, Paul Robinson, Edna Kent, James Spears**

**Meeting called to order at 7:15 by Chairwoman Wheeler**

### **1. Introduction of DRAFT minutes from September 16, 2009**

**Pegée Malcolm noted a typographical error and that she had abstained from**

**the Chairperson election vote as well.**

**Motion to accept minutes as amended by Bruce MacGunnigle, with a second**

**By Judith Fardig**

**8 – 0 to accept minutes as amended**

### **2. Cemetery Committees of RI Cities and Towns Report – Vice-Chair Pegée Malcolm**

**Separate document “LIST OF CITY AND TOWN CEMETERY GROUPS 2009”**

**Additions and corrections were suggested, Pegée to update list with**

**additional information and finalized list to be posted on website**

**3. Report on GPS – Chairwoman Wheeler**

**Charlestown and Cumberland done**

**December 7th or 8th – Evelyn to work on Foster**

**Volunteers needed**

**West Warwick data will be sent to Evelyn**

**4. Report from members**

**a. Judith Fardig: Discussion regarding Barton Cemetery (Bristol #7), title searches, real estate disclosure regarding cemeteries on property, enforcing marking cemetery locations on plat maps, assessors maps, planting trees at Veterans' Cemetery with RI Tree Council**

**b. Sally Small: Barrington Cemetery Commission purchased additional property for future plots (original endowment in 1910 was for 7 acres); Spalding Cemetery in Lincoln where a Real Daughter is buried is in bad shape; additional discussion of photographs of cemeteries and stones**

**c. Lee Teverow: The Historical Society continues to field various standard questions; discussion regarding a family that found a gravestone in their yard which the database indicated was not originally located near their home; refer family to local Commission or representative of the appropriate county**

**d. Bruce MacGunnigle: Varnum Memorial Army has an SAR gravestone (the original was replaced); research on 6 Real Sons –**

photographs of all but 1 of the stones; 1850's map showing a cemetery that doesn't exist now

e. David Kirchner: 2 Eagle Scouts working on the trails and mapping where the trails go; RI Job Corps maintaining gardens, additional burial fields and additional niches; Department of Veterans Affairs will soon be a separate Department

f. Letty Champion: "Colonial Cemeteries of Newport" book printed previous day – over two years of work invested – book includes 2 DVDs with over 9000 photographs of stones; work on Veterans cards, GPS and photo project in Tiverton

g. Peggie Malcolm: Coventry Cemetery Commission – January meeting set, advertisements for meetings and GPS readings; 7 stones repaired in Brayton Cemetery; Eagle Scout projects; Peggie was the recipient of the Presidential Volunteer Service Award!

h. Evelyn Wheeler: Property owner in Woonsocket (15 years) has stones and obelisks all over the yard and in the retaining wall; discussion regarding Precious Blood cemetery washing out; MIT satellite imaging will be done on Oak Hill Cemetery

5. Report on GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) – Chairwoman Wheeler and

Lester Hilton from Cumberland learned that the Dept of Agriculture in Warwick has a GPR unit, and is going to use it to determine if a couple of possible "cemeteries" really are cemeteries

6. Next meeting – Woonsocket April 21, 2010 at 7 pm

**7. Set up sub-committee for web site: Henry Duquette, Paul Robinson, Lee Teverow, Evelyn Wheeler, and Peggie Malcolm**

**Introduction of Paul Robinson's outline of Problems/Needs/Possible Solutions – see separate document**

**8. Set up sub-committee for funding project: Letty Champion, Evelyn Wheeler and Peggie Malcolm**

**Senator Whitehouse would like to back funding requests for upkeep, repair, and cleanup of cemeteries**

**Evelyn Wheeler has a meeting with A. T. Wall (ACI) on December 7th to discuss the possibility of setting up a work detail to help maintain cemeteries**

**9. Update on RIGL's – Chairwoman Wheeler – discussion tabled for next meeting**

**10. Bruce MacGunnigle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with a second by David Kirchner**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm**

**Peggie Malcolm announced that she may not be immediately available over the next several months due to personal reasons**

**Respectfully Submitted by Emily Corbett, Secretary**